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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/845,149
Confirmation Number	3114
Filing Date	04/30/2001
First Named Inventor	John R. Bugarin
Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Ronald Laneau
Total Number of Pages In This Submission: 31	Attorney Docket Number: 35010.126

ENCLOSURES *(check all that apply)*

- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☒ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) ____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☒ Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) *(please identify below)*:
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Remarks **It is believed that no additional fees are due in this matter. However, if it is determined that additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to debit Deposit Account No. 502822 for the required fees.**

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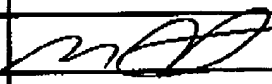
Signature			
Printed Name	Michael J. Setter		
Date	12/8/2005	Reg. No.	37,936

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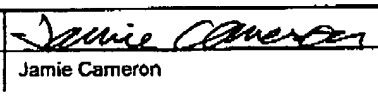
Signature			
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Effective on 12/08/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ($) 1,000

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/845,149
Confirmation No.	3114
Filing Date	04/30/2001
First Named Inventor	John R. Bugarin
Examiner Name	Ronald Laneau
Art Unit	3627
Attorney Docket No.	35010.128

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

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☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 502622 Deposit Account Name: Setter Ollila LLC

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		
		Small Entity		Small Entity		Small Entity	
Application Type	Fee ($)	Fee($)	Fee($)	Fee($)	Fee($)	Fee($)	Fees Paid ($)
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	____
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	____
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	____
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	____
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	____

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee ($)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee($)	Fee Paid ($)
____ -20 or HP=	____	x ____	= ____

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee($)	Fee Paid ($)
____ - 3 or HP=	____	x ____	= ____

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

Multiple Dependent Claims	
Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)
____	____

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is $250 ($125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee ($)	Fee Paid ($)
____	- 100 = ____	/ 50 = ____ (round up to a whole number)	x	= ____

4. OTHER FEE(S)

	Fees Paid ($)
Non-English Specification, $130 fee (no small entity discount)	____
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge) : Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief	1,000

SUBMITTED BY

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 37,936	Telephone (303) 938-9999 x 13
Name (Print/Type)	Michael J. Setter		Date 12/8/2005

Practitioner's Docket No. 35010/126 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: John R. Bugarin
Application Number: 09/845,149
Filed: 4/30/2001
Group Number: 3627
Examiner: Ronald Laneau

For: PRODUCT SELECTION OVER A COMMUNICATION NETWORK

Mailstop Appeal Brief – Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Appeal Brief

Real Party in Interest

Micro Motion Inc. is the real party in interest.

Related Appeals and Interferences

None.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-39 are pending and are under a final rejection. Claims 1-39 are the claims on appeal.

12/12/2005 TL0111 00000024 09845149
02 FC:1402 500.00 OP

Status of Amendments

None.

Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter

Appellants note that a substitute specification was filed on July 13, 2001, and the page and line numbers given below refer to the substitute specification.

Claim 27

Claim 27 recites a method of operating a server system 100 for directing product selection using a sequence of screens. (See the Application; page 3 line 24 to page 5, line 6; and page 10, lines 13-25). User system 110 receives screen signals from communication network 120 and displays corresponding screens to a user. (See the Application, page 13, line 24 to page 14, line 6). The user provides user inputs to user system 110 in response to the screens, and user system 110 transfers corresponding user input signals over communication network 120 to server system 100. (See the application, page 10, lines 13-25).

Server system 100 processes user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent with at least one product. (See the Application, page 14, lines 13-20). The Application describes consistent user data as follows.

> "Consistent user data is data that is consistent with the user data for prior screens relative to at least one product - meaning that a selectable product exists that can accommodate the user data for the current screen and all previous screens. For example, if a large truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that

requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would be consistent user data. In contrast, if a small truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would not be consistent user data."

Server system 100 processes user screen selections from the user input signals ***to control user movement through the screens***. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if the selected screen is backward in the screen sequence from the current screen. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if all previous screens in the sequence prior to the selected screen have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). If the selected screen is forward in the sequence and if one of the screens prior to the selected screen does not have consistent data, then server system 100 transfers the earliest screen in the sequence that does not have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23).

Consider an example where there is a sequence of five screens, and the user is on screen two. If the user selects screen one, then screen one is provided because it is back in the sequence. If the user selects screen four, then screen four is provided only if the user data for screens 1-3 is consistent with an available product. However, if the user data for screen three is not consistent, then screen three is provided instead of selected screen four. Thus, server system 100 does not allow the user to jump ahead over a screen that is missing consistent data.

Advantageously, server system 100 selects a product for the user based on an orderly build of consistent data. The ordered sequence and the maintenance of consistent data work together can help eliminate user confusion during the product selection process.

Claim 14

Claim 14 recites a server system 100 that directs product selection using a sequence of screens. (See the Application; page 3 line 24 to page 4, line 9; page 6, line 11 to page 7, line 6; and page 10, lines 13-25). User system 110 receives screen signals from communication network 120 and displays corresponding screens to a user. (See the Application, page 13, line 24 to page 14, line 6). The user provides user inputs to user system 110 in response to the screens, and user system 110 transfers corresponding user input signals over communication network 120 to server system 100. (See the application, page 10, lines 13-25).

Server system 100 includes network interface 101 and processing system 102 that operate as follows. (See the Application page 10, lines 26-27; and page 12, lines 5-19). Server system 100 processes user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent with at least one product. (See the Application, page 14, lines 13-20). The Application describes consistent user data as follows.

> "Consistent user data is data that is consistent with the user data for prior screens relative to at least one product - meaning that a selectable product exists that can

accommodate the user data for the current screen and all previous screens. For example, if a large truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would be consistent user data. In contrast, if a small truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would not be consistent user data."

Server system 100 processes user screen selections from the user input signals ***to control user movement through the screens***. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if the selected screen is backward in the screen sequence from the current screen. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if all previous screens in the sequence prior to the selected screen have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). If the selected screen is forward in the sequence and if one of the screens prior to the selected screen does not have consistent data, then server system 100 transfers the earliest screen in the sequence that does not have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23).

Consider an example where there is a sequence of five screens, and the user is on screen two. If the user selects screen one, then screen one is provided because it is back in the sequence. If the user selects screen four, then screen four is provided only if the user data for screens 1-3 is consistent with an available product. However, if the user

data for screen three is not consistent, then screen three is provided instead of selected screen four. Thus, server system 100 does not allow the user to jump ahead over a screen that is missing consistent data.

Advantageously, server system 100 selects a product for the user based on an orderly build of consistent data. The ordered sequence and the maintenance of consistent data work together to help eliminate user confusion during the product selection process.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites a software system that directs product selection using a sequence of screens. (See the Application, page 3 line 24 to page 4, line 9; page 7, line 20 to page 8, line 12; and page 10, lines 13-27). User system 110 receives screen signals from communication network 120 and displays corresponding screens to a user. (See the Application, page 13, line 24 to page 14, line 6). The user provides user inputs to user system 110 in response to the screens, and user system 110 transfers corresponding user input signals over communication network 120 to server system 100. (See the application, page 10, lines 13-25).

Server system 100 retrieves and executes user data software 106 and screen control software 107 that are stored on storage system 103 and that control server system operation as follows. (See the Application page 10, lines 26-28; page 11, line 28 to page 12, line 19; page 15, lines 8-15). Server system 100 processes user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent with at least one product. (See the

Application, page 14, lines 13-20). The Application describes consistent user data as follows.

> "Consistent user data is data that is consistent with the user data for prior screens relative to at least one product - meaning that a selectable product exists that can accommodate the user data for the current screen and all previous screens. For example, if a large truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would be consistent user data. In contrast, if a small truck motor is selected for the first screen, then a towing package that requires the large motor and that is selected in the fifth screen would not be consistent user data."

Server system 100 processes user screen selections from the user input signals ***to control user movement through the screens***. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if the selected screen is backward in the screen sequence from the current screen. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23). Server system 100 transfers the selected screen if all previous screens in the sequence prior to the selected screen have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 8, line 24 to page 16, line 23). If the selected screen is forward in the sequence and if one of the screens prior to the selected screen does not have consistent

data, then server system 100 transfers the earliest screen in the sequence that does not have the consistent data. (See the Application, page 15, line 8 to page 16, line 23).

Consider an example where there is a sequence of five screens, and the user is on screen two. If the user selects screen one, then screen one is provided because it is back in the sequence. If the user selects screen four, then screen four is provided only if the user data for screens 1-3 is consistent with an available product. However, if the user data for screen three is not consistent, then screen three is provided instead of selected screen four. Thus, server system 100 does not allow the user to jump ahead over a screen that is missing consistent data.

Advantageously, server system 100 selects a product for the user based on an orderly build of consistent data. The ordered sequence and the maintenance of consistent data work together to help eliminate user confusion during the product selection process.

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

1. Claims 1-5, 14-18, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. patent 5,754,712 (Turpin) in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0107763 A1 (Palmer).

2. Claims 6-13, 19-26, and 32-39 are rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. patent 5,754,712 (Turpin) in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0107763 A1 (Palmer).

Appellants note that the final office action incorrectly cites patent number 5,008,810 for this rejection, which is the Kessel patent. Since the rejection refers to the reference as "Turpin" and the Examiner's remarks clearly correspond to Turpin, Appellants assume that the Kessel patent number was listed in the final office action by error, and that the Turpin patent number listed above (5,754,712) is correct.

Argument

1. Claims 1-5, 14-18, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. patent 5,754,712 (Turpin) in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0107763 A1 (Palmer).

Group I – Claims 1, 3-5, 14, 16-18, 27, and 29-31

Claim 27 relates to a method of operating a server system to direct product selection. Product selection is accomplished through a ***sequence of screens*** that are displayed to a

user. The user responds to the screens with user inputs that identify product selection data and that also identify the subsequent screens that the user wants the system to display. The server system responds to the user inputs by displaying screens, ***but the system does not always provide the screen that the user has selected***. Thus, the method of claim 27 requires the server system to ***control the user's movement through the sequence of screens*** in response to user screen selections. The screen-based control is designed so the user will build, in an orderly and understandable sequence, a set of data that is consistent with a product.

The server system provides the selected screen "if the selected one of the screens is backward in the sequence." Thus, the user may always go back in the sequence to an earlier screen. The server system also provides the selected screen "if all previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens have the consistent data." Thus, the user may jump ahead in the sequence to a selected screen if all of the screens prior to the selected screen have data that is consistent with a selectable product. ***The user may not jump over a screen in the sequence that is missing consistent data.***

Consider the situation where the user selects a screen that is ahead in the sequence, but there are screens before the selected screen that are missing consistent data. In this situation, the server system provides the "earliest one of the screens in the sequence that does not have the consistent data." For example, if the user finishes loading screen 3 with consistent data and then selects screen 5, but screen 4 does not yet have consistent data, then the server system provides screen 4 – the earliest screen in the sequence without consistent data. ***Thus, the server system does not allow the user to skip screens in the sequence that are missing consistent data.***

Consider another situation where the user finishes entering consistent data on all screens, but then goes back to the first screen and makes a change that makes some data on subsequent screens inconsistent. If the user then selects the last screen in the sequence, then the server system will automatically move the user sequentially through the screen sequence to the next screen with inconsistent data. This process repeats until the user is again finished entering consistent data on all screens. Thus, the server system leads the user back through the screen sequence – skipping screens with consistent data but stopping at screens without consistent data. Thus, the user is able to quickly move forward though the sequence of screens to correct inconsistent data. Importantly, the proper sequence of screens for data entry is maintained by the server system.

When all of these claim limitations are considered together, the server system allows the user to move around freely in the sequence as long as they do not skip over screens that are missing consistent data. Thus, server system controls the user's movement through the sequence of screens by forcing the user ***to build a set of consistent data according to an ordered sequence of screens***. The screen-based control is designed so the user will build, in an orderly and understandable sequence, a set of data that is consistent with a product.

Thus, the invention of claim 27 assists a user in product selection by controlling the users movement through a sequence of screens in order to build a set of data that is consistent with a product. The sequence may be optimally designed to collect the data from the user in an efficient and understandable order. The user may jump over screens that already have consistent data, but the user may not jump over screens that are missing consistent data. The invention forces the user to resolve inconsistencies before moving

ahead in the sequence. **By forcing a sequential build of consistent data, the invention minimizes user confusion.**

Turpin teaches a system where multiple screens each have multiple data entry fields. The Turpin system prompts an operator to fill out a sequence of ***fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 30-37). Thus, Turpin controls progression through a form in terms of ***fields instead of screens.*** Turpin cannot provide the claimed ***screen*** control, because ***Turpin never assesses the any conditions that control screen-to-screen movement.*** Turpin uses a field-to-field approach that ignores screen-to-screen based control.

For example, the sequence of fields used by Turpin causes the system to jump from the current screen to another screen even if the current screen is still incomplete. (See Turpin, column 16, lines 48-54). For example, the Turpin system jumps from screen 1 (Figure 9) to screen 2 (Figure 10) to fill in the "amount of basic policy" on screen 2 before returning to the incomplete "total annual premium" field on screen 1. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 41-59). Based on the controlling sequence of fields, Turpin may display screen 1, then screen 4, then screen 2, then screen 1, etc. This technique for controlling the screen display could confuse the user and is clearly in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Turpin allows the user to ***skip data fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 60-65). Clearly, this allows the user to skip over screens that are missing consistent data. Allowing the user to skip over missing consistent data is in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Turpin allows the user to ***change the sequence of fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, line 66 to column 16, line 4). Thus, the user can define the order in which they input data

into the form. This user control also allows the user to jump over missing consistent data in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Palmer teaches an attribute wizard, but does not teach the claimed control over screen displays. The claimed screen-based control ensuring an ordered build of consistent data is not suggested in either Turpin or Palmer. The combination of Turpin and Palmer would still control movement through the form on a field-to-field basis. This means that the combination does not decide whether or not a ***screen*** should be displayed based on an ordered build of consistent data. Importantly, the combination would still allow the user to skip data inputs and define the data input sequence. Thus, the combination still falls well short of the claimed subject matter.

The same reasoning applies to claims 1, 3-5, 14, 16-18, and 29-31.

Group II – Claims 2, 15, and 28

The reasoning for Group I stated above also applies to Group II. In addition, claim 28 requires including in the screen signals (displaying) the consistent data for the current screen and for earlier screens in the sequence. Thus, the user can view all entered consistent data for all screens while entering data into the current screen. Applicant could not find any portion of Turpin or Palmer that supports this limitation.

The same reasoning applies to claims 2 and 15.

2. Claims 6-13, 19-26, and 32-39 are rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. patent 5,754,712 (Turpin) in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0107763 A1 (Palmer).

Claim 32 relates to a method of operating a server system to direct product selection. Product selection is accomplished through a ***sequence of screens*** that are displayed to a user. The user responds to the screens with user inputs that identify product selection data and that also identify the subsequent screens that the user wants the system to display. The server system responds to the user inputs by displaying screens, ***but the system does not always provide the screen that the user has selected.*** Thus, the method of claim 27 requires the server system to ***control the user's movement through the sequence of screens*** in response to user screen selections. The screen-based control is designed so the user will build, in an orderly and understandable sequence, a set of data that is consistent with a product.

The server system provides the selected screen "if the selected one of the screens is backward in the sequence." Thus, the user may always go back in the sequence to an earlier screen. The server system also provides the selected screen "if all previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens have the consistent data." Thus, the user may jump ahead in the sequence to a selected screen if all of the screens prior to the selected screen have data that is consistent with a selectable product. ***The user may <u>not</u> jump over a screen in the sequence that is missing consistent data.***

Consider the situation where the user selects a screen that is ahead in the sequence, but there are screens before the selected screen that are missing consistent data. In this situation, the server system provides the "earliest one of the screens in the sequence that does not have the consistent data." For example, if the user finishes loading screen 3 with consistent data and then selects screen 5, but screen 4 does not yet have consistent data, then the server system provides screen 4 – the earliest screen in the sequence

without consistent data. ***Thus, the server system does not allow the user to skip screens in the sequence that are missing consistent data.***

Consider another situation where the user finishes entering consistent data on all screens, but then goes back to the first screen and makes a change that makes some data on subsequent screens inconsistent. If the user then selects the last screen in the sequence, then the server system will automatically move the user sequentially through the screen sequence to the next screen with inconsistent data. This process repeats until the user is again finished entering consistent data on all screens. Thus, the server system leads the user back through the screen sequence – skipping screens with consistent data but stopping at screens without consistent data. Thus, the user is able to quickly move forward though the sequence of screens to correct inconsistent data. Importantly, the proper sequence of screens for data entry is maintained by the server system.

When all of these claim limitations are considered together, the server system allows the user to move around freely in the sequence as long as they do not skip over screens that are missing consistent data. Thus, server system controls the user's movement through the sequence of screens by forcing the user ***to build a set of consistent data according to an ordered sequence of screens.***

Thus, the invention of claim 27 assists a user in product selection by controlling the users movement through a sequence of screens in order to build a set of data that is consistent with a product. The sequence may be optimally designed to collect the data from the user in an efficient and understandable order. The user may jump over screens that already have consistent data, but the user may not jump over screens that are missing consistent data. The invention forces the user to resolve inconsistencies before moving

ahead in the sequence. **By forcing a sequential build of consistent data, the invention minimizes user confusion.**

Turpin teaches a system where multiple screens each have multiple data entry fields. The Turpin system prompts an operator to fill out a sequence of ***fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 30-37). Thus, Turpin controls progression through a form in terms of ***fields instead of screens.*** Turpin cannot provide the claimed ***screen*** control, because ***Turpin never assesses the any conditions that control screen-to-screen movement.*** Turpin uses a field-to-field approach that ignores screen-to-screen based control.

For example, the sequence of fields used by Turpin causes the system to jump from the current screen to another screen even if the current screen is still incomplete. (See Turpin, column 16, lines 48-54). For example, the Turpin system jumps from screen 1 (Figure 9) to screen 2 (Figure 10) to fill in the "amount of basic policy" on screen 2 before returning to the incomplete "total annual premium" field on screen 1. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 41-59). Based on the controlling sequence of fields, Turpin may display screen 1, then screen 4, then screen 2, then screen 1, etc. This technique for controlling the screen display could confuse the user and is clearly in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Turpin allows the user to ***skip data fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, lines 60-65). Clearly, this allows the user to skip over screens that are missing consistent data. Allowing the user to skip over missing consistent data is in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Turpin allows the user to ***change the sequence of fields***. (See Turpin, column 15, line 66 to column 16, line 4). Thus, the user can define the order in which they input data

into the form. This user control also allows the user to jump over missing consistent data in direct contrast to the claimed invention.

Palmer teaches an attribute wizard, but does not teach the claimed control over screen displays. The claimed screen-based control ensuring an ordered build of consistent data is not suggested in either Turpin or Palmer. The combination of Turpin and Palmer would still control movement through the form on a field-to-field basis. This means that the combination does not decide whether or not a ***screen*** should be displayed based on an ordered build of consistent data. Importantly, the combination would still allow the user to skip data inputs and define the data input sequence. Thus, the combination still falls well short of the claimed subject matter.

The same reasoning applies to claims 6-13, 19-26, and 33-39.

Claims Appendix

The claims under appeal follow below:

1. (Original) A software system for directing product selection over a communication network where a user system receives screen signals from the communication network and displays corresponding screens to a user, the user provides user inputs to the user system in response to the screens, the user system transfers corresponding user input signals over the communication network, and the screens are arranged in a sequence, the software system comprising:

user data software configured to direct a processing system to process user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent data that is consistent with at least one of a plurality of products;

screen control software configured to direct the processing system to process user screen selections from the user input signals, transfer a selected one of the screen signals corresponding to a selected one of the screens if the selected one of the screens is backward in the sequence or if all previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens have the consistent data, and to transfer to the user system over the communication network an earliest one of the screen signals corresponding to an earliest one of the screens in the sequence that does not have the consistent data if the selected one of the screens is forward in the sequence and if the previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens do not all have the consistent data; and

a storage system that stores the user data software and the screen control software.

2. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the screen control software is configured to direct the processing system to include in the screen signals the consistent data for a current one of the screens corresponding to a current one of the screen signals being transferred and the consistent data for earlier ones of the screens in the sequence.

3. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein:

the user data software is configured to direct the processing system to remove from product selection consideration non-selectable ones of the products that are inconsistent with the consistent data; and

the screen control software is configured to direct the processing system to modify the screens signals to indicate user data selections that are inconsistent with selectable ones of the products that remain under product selection consideration.

4. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data software is configured to direct the processing system to start with a pre-existing set of the consistent data.

5. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data software is configured to direct the processing system to complete a purchase transaction for a selected one of the products.

6. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the products comprise flow meters.

7. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the products comprise Coriolis flow meters.

8. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the products comprise densitometers.

9. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data indicates a fluid name.

10. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data indicates at least one of: fluid flow rate, fluid density, fluid viscosity, fluid pressure, and fluid temperature.

11. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter sensor type.

12. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter process connection type.

13. (Original) The software system of claim 1 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter transmitter type.

14. (Original) A server system for directing product selection over a communication network where a user system receives screen signals from the communication network and displays corresponding screens to a user, the user provides user inputs to the user system in response to the screens, the user system transfers corresponding user input signals over the communication network, and the screens are arranged in a sequence, the server system comprising:

a network interface configured to transfer the screen signals to the communication network and to receive the user input signals from the communication network; and

a processing system configured to process user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent data that is consistent with at least one of a plurality of products, process user screen selections from the user input signals, transfer a selected one of the screen signals corresponding to a selected one of the screens if the selected one of the screens is backward in the sequence or if all previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens have the consistent data, and to transfer to the user system over the communication network an earliest one of the screen signals corresponding to an earliest one of the screens in the sequence that does not have the consistent data if the selected one of the screens is forward in the sequence and if the previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens do not all have the consistent data.

15. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the processing system is configured to include in the screen signals the consistent data for a current one of the screens corresponding to a current one of the screen signals being transferred and the consistent data for earlier ones of the screens in the sequence.

16. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the processing system is configured to remove from product selection consideration non-selectable ones of the products that are inconsistent with the consistent data, and modify the screens signals to indicate user data selections that are inconsistent with selectable ones of the products that remain under product selection consideration.

17. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the processing system is configured to start with a pre-existing set of the consistent data.

18. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the processing system is configured to complete a purchase transaction for a selected one of the products.

19. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the products comprise flow meters.

20. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the products comprise Coriolis flow meters.

21. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the products comprise densitometers.

22. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the user data indicates a fluid name.

23. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the user data indicates at least one of: fluid flow rate, fluid density, fluid viscosity, fluid pressure, and fluid temperature.

24. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter sensor type.

25. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter process connection type.

26. (Original) The server system of claim 14 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter transmitter type.

27. (Original) A method of operating a server system for directing product selection over a communication network where a user system receives screen signals from the communication network and displays corresponding screens to a user, the user provides user inputs to the user system in response to the screens, the user system transfers corresponding user input signals over the communication network, and the screens are arranged in a sequence, the method comprising:

processing user data from the user input signals to determine if the user data is consistent data that is consistent with at least one of a plurality of products;

processing user screen selections from the user input signals;

transferring a selected one of the screen signals corresponding to a selected one of the screens if the selected one of the screens is backward in the sequence or if all previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens have the consistent data; and

transferring to the user system over the communication network an earliest one of the screen signals corresponding to an earliest one of the screens in the sequence that does not have the consistent data if the selected one of the screens is forward in the sequence and if the previous ones of the screens in the sequence prior to the selected one of the screens do not all have the consistent data.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising including in the screen signals the consistent data for a current one of the screens corresponding to a current one of the screen signals being transferred and the consistent data for earlier ones of the screens in the sequence.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising removing from product selection consideration non-selectable ones of the products that are inconsistent with the consistent data, and modifying the screens signals to indicate user data selections that are inconsistent with selectable ones of the products that remain under product selection consideration.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising starting the method with a pre-existing set of the consistent data.

31. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising completing a purchase transaction for a selected one of the products.

32. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the products comprise flow meters.

33. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the products comprise Coriolis flow meters.

34. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the products comprise densitometers.

35. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the user data indicates a fluid name.

36. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the user data indicates at least one of: fluid flow rate, fluid density, fluid viscosity, fluid pressure, and fluid temperature.

37. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter sensor type.

38. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter process connection type.

39. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the user data indicates a flowmeter transmitter type.

Evidence Appendix

None.

Related Proceedings Appendix

None.

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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